



ASSOCIATION PUBLICLY OWNED
OF BAY AREA ENERGY
GOVERNMENTS RESOURCES

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Angela Walton, Chair
City of Richmond

August 18, 2022

Doug Williams, Vice Chair
City of Santa Rosa

Governor Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Andre Duurvoort
City of Cupertino

Diana Oyler
Contra Costa County

RE: Proposed Changes to California's Net Energy Metering (NEM) Rooftop Solar Program

Chris Schroeder
City of Milpitas

Dear Governor Newsom,

I am writing on behalf of ABAG POWER, a group of nearly 40 local governments that pool their natural gas needs to achieve aggregated, competitive purchasing for hundreds of critical facilities.

For the past 25 years, ABAG POWER has supported widespread adoption of renewable energy, energy efficiency and decarbonization, including serving as a renewable electricity provider, advocating for the creation of local government energy efficiency programs and Community Choice Aggregation, and serving as a partner for various collective purchasing efforts for municipal solar.

We are writing to express concern about the changes being considered by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to California's net energy metering (NEM) program. Specifically, we oppose the introduction of a minimum charge levied on rooftop solar customers, retroactive changes that negatively impact current rooftop solar customers, and the reduction in value rooftop solar customers receive for exporting electricity to the grid. We believe these proposed changes would diminish the growth of solar adoption across the state thereby reducing climate benefits.

ABAG POWER supports protecting and expanding rooftop solar which can be accomplished with a succeeding NEM program – different than what is currently being considered by the CPUC – that enables clean energy access by making it easier, not harder, for people to adopt rooftop solar and storage. Greater access to rooftop solar will help the State in expeditiously achieving our clean energy goals while also driving down costs for clean and reliable energy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Angela Walton, Chair,
ABAG POWER Executive Committee